

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the TITLE beginning at page 1, line 5 with the following:

C¹ -DECREASING BI-REACTIVE CONTAMINANTS IN AROMATIC STREAMS-

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 1 with the following rewritten paragraph:

C² -Undesirable hydrocarbon contaminants containing olefinic bonds are quantified by the Bromine Index (BI). Undesirable olefins, including both dienes and mono-olefins, have typically been concurrently removed from aromatic streams such as BTX by contacting the aromatic stream with acid-treated clay. Other materials, e.g., zeolites, have also been used for this purpose. Clay is an amorphous naturally-occurring material, while zeolites used for this purpose generally are synthesized and are therefore more expensive. Both clay and zeolites have very limited lifetimes in aromatics treatment services. The length of service correlates with the level of bromine reactive impurities in the feedstream. BI-reactive contaminants rapidly age both clay and zeolites. Indeed, although clay is the less expensive of the two alternatives, large aromatic plants can spend more than a million dollars a year on clay. Furthermore, since zeolites are considerably more expensive than clay, their use in removing hydrocarbon contaminants can only be justified by dramatically improved stability in aromatics treatment so that their cycle length is practical.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 36-38 as follows:

36. (Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein said catalyst is unbound.

C³ 37. (Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein said catalyst is self-bound.

38. (Amended) The method of claim 21 wherein said catalyst comprises self-bound MCM-22.